ADVICE

TO THE

Freemen of England,

IN THE

CHOICE

OF THEIR

REPRESENTATIVES

IN

PARLIAMENT.

IN a time of common Danger it concerns all men vigorously to endeavour the Preservation of the Common-Wealth, whereof they are members; especially when Religion, the richest Jewel, and chiefest Gem any Nation can possibly enjoy, is in extreme hazard and danger. That ours is so, I hope none but Papists and Atheists doubt of it. The Greatness of our Danger will appear, if we consider,

1. The Flames of *London*, and the lamentable Condition of Great *Britains* Metropolis, when so many thousand Houses fell as a Sacrifice to Popish malice.

2. If you consider the great Boastings of the Papists both at home and abroad.

3. The Great Preparations of the French King.

4. The King's Majesties most Gracious Speeches to both Houses of Parliament.

5. The great Rage of the Papists for their having so many of their Plots Discovered, and Conspirators Executed.

6. The Proceedings of three Parliaments, and what prodigious things was Discovered unto them.

7. The acknowledgments of some of the Traitors themselves, who acknowledge there is a Plot against our Religion, but ridiculously deny a Plot against the King's Life.

8. The sedulous Attempts of the Papists to invalidate the Evidence of some, and stifle the Evidence of others.

9. If you consider their Sham-Plots, and Meal-Tub Contrivances.

10. It will appear if you consider *Coleman's* Letters, and that Collection of Letters published by Sir *George Trebe*, according to the Order of the House of Commons.

11. The bloody Murder of Sir *Edmondbury Godfrey*, and the cruel Assassination of Justice *Arnald*.

12. It will appear if you consider the great Opposition the providing against a Popish Successor hath met withall, and the desolating Misery which infallibly attends such a Successors coming to the Throne, who must sail altogether by the Pope's Compass.

Lastly,

Laſtly, It will abundantly appear if you reflect upon, and ſeriouſly conſider the implacable nature of the Jeſuits, who never yet undertook any Deſign, but they perſevered in it againſt all oppoſition, until they either accompliſhed their Enterprizes, or ruined themſelves.

Therefore ſince our Danger is ſo great, and the only way of ſecuring our Religion and Liberty, (in order to the Choice of our Repreſentatives in Parliament) all imaginable care ſhould be taken by the Freeholders and Citizens of *England*, in their Choice, to Elect ſuch Members to ſerve in this preſent Parliament, as are Men of Wiſdom and Courage, Skill and Conduct, to ſtand up for the Good of the King and Kingdom; Men of Reſolutions to Maintain the Proteſtant Intereſt againſt all the Attempts of *Rome* and *France*, and Secure our Liberties from Arbitrary Incroachments; To which end I humbly adviſe,

Firſt, That none be accounted worthy of your Voices, that account Religion unworthy of their Practices; none being fit Promoters and Defenders of the Proteſtant Religion, but thoſe which ſhew their Eſteem of it, by ſquaring their Actions to the Rule of its Principles.

Secondly, Give your Voices for none commended to you from other places, unleſs you have good Aſſurance given you of their fidelity to the Proteſtant Religion, and the Intereſt of the Nation.

Thirdly, Let ſuch Members as ſerved you in the laſt Parliament, with Faithfulneſs and Courage, and vigorouſly ſtood up for the Proteſtant Intereſt, be accounted highly deſerving your preſent Choice; and if any ſtand in Competition with them, and you believe them to be true Proteſtant and deſerving Gentlemen, yet be not ſo baſe ſpirited, as ungratefully to deſert thoſe Worthy Perſons which have deſerved ſo well of the Nation.

Fourthly, Give your Voice freely; be not ſo mean ſpirited as to be won by bribery or feaſting; for aſſure your ſelves, he that bids moſt for you, will endeavour to make moſt of you; and if you ſell them your Votes, they will for advantage ſell your Liberty and Property.

Fifthly, Reject all perſons that ſpeak ſlightingly of the Popiſh Plot, and would fain ſuggeſt that there is a Proteſtant Plot.

Sixthly, Reject with Scorn and Contempt all perſons of debaucht *Principles* and *Practices*, although they ſhould make never ſo great pretences, and large promiſes of being faithful to the Intereſt of the Nation; for aſſure your ſelves, that an Atheiſt, who hath not Religion to bias him, will be for you no longer than till he can advance himſelf by being againſt you, nor longer true to the Proteſtant Religion, than till he can obtain the favour of your implacable and bloody Popiſh Enemies, by betraying both it and you. Let the late ſad Example of *Middleſex* be ever freſh in your memory, and an everlaſting Caution againſt repoſing any Confidence in an Atheiſt, or a notorious Debauchee.

Seventhly, At your Elections, avoid as much as poſſible all popular and tumultuous proceedings, all railing at, and reviling of thoſe that ſtand not for the ſame perſons you do, or that differ from you in ſome circumſtances of Religion; nothing being more grateful, pleaſing and delightful unto your Popiſh Enemies.

Eightly, That you may expect the bleſſing of the Lord upon your Endeavours, let there be great care taken that by exceſs and debauchery you increaſe not your guilt by continuing and multiplying your wickedneſſes againſt the God of Heaven; for, for ought I know, if you ſhould be as profane in your preſent, as you have been in former Elections, it may provoke the Lord to ſay of *England*, as he ſometime ſaid of *Jeruſalem*, *Becauſe I would have purged you, and you would not be purged, ye ſhall not be purged any more, until I have cauſed my fury to reſt upon you.* And that ſince I would have ſaved *England* if you would have reformed, and ye would not, I will not wait for your Reforming any longer.

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